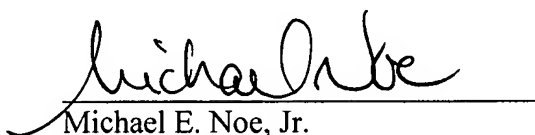


### REMARKS

Applicant certainly appreciates the allowance of Claims 4 – 13, and the suggestion offered by the Examiner to overcome the objection to Claim 3. Accordingly, independent Claim 1 was rewritten with the language of canceled Claim 3 and is now in condition for allowance. Claim 2 depends from Claim 1 is likewise allowable. In addition, Applicant has labeled Figure 5 as prior art as suggested by the Examiner.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance and favorable action is requested. No fee for an extension of time or other fees are believed to be required. However, in the event that one or more fees are required, please charge them to **Hitachi Global Storage Technologies' Deposit Account Number 50-2587**.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael E. Noe, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

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